

Agency Activities and Monitored Issues

New Deputy CEO

Mike Harbour, General Manager of Intercity Transit Authority in Olympia, is joining Sound Transit as Deputy CEO.

Mr. Harbour takes over for Celia Kupersmith, who retired in August. Mr. Harbour has over 35 years of experience in public transportation and is very well respected by elected officials, peers and staff. Under his leadership, Intercity Transit and his prior employer Chatham Area Transportation Authority in Savannah, Georgia were recognized by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) for outstanding achievement and excellence. Earlier this year, he was selected Boss of the Year by the Olympia-Thurston County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Harbour joins Sound Transit in late October.

Northgate Link Extension

A number of Sound Transit Boardmembers and other dignitaries joined neighborhood representatives at the site of the future Roosevelt Station for the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Northgate Link Extension in August. The groundbreaking was followed by a community celebration. The Northgate Link Extension, (formerly known as North Link), is the first light rail construction funded by the 2008 ST2 ballot measure.



Northgate Link Extension Groundbreaking



S. 200th Link Extension

The Sound Transit Board approved a contract with PCL Civil Constructors, Inc., to design and build the elevated station and guideway for the 1.6-mile Link extension south from SeaTac/Airport Station to South 200th Street. Construction is scheduled to begin early next year, with service to start in September, 2016 – four years earlier than envisioned in the ST2 plan.

Sound Transit selected PCL because of their demonstrated experience and expertise with design-build projects; PCL's price of \$169 million is less than the \$170 million to \$190 million estimate developed by Sound Transit for the project. The contract includes an 8 percent contingency of \$13,520,000, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$182,520,000.

Agency Activities and Monitored Issues *continued . . .*

2013 Proposed budget

Sound Transit's proposed 2013 budget unveiled to the Sound Transit Board in September shows total spending for delivering projects at \$754.7 million. The service delivery budget is up 5.3 percent to \$211.8 million, mainly driven by higher fuel prices, the cost to extend Sounder service to South Tacoma and Lakewood and adding another commuter rail round trip in late 2013.

The economy is expanding slower than the independent economic forecasts used by the agency anticipated. As a result, revenue is projected to be 3.5 percent lower in fiscal year 2013 than previously forecast. In response to continued modest economic growth, the proposed 2013 budget makes a number of reductions to long-term costs, particularly in system-wide programs such as ST3 planning and research and technology.

Funding comes through

The Puget Sound Regional Council recently approved nearly \$80 million in funding that will benefit a number of projects, including an estimated \$51.5 million of Federal Transit Administration funds that will go towards major improvements at the Mukilteo Sounder station and Link light rail extensions north, south and east.

In addition, another \$14.4 million will go for the Northgate Link Extension, \$9 million for East Link final design and construction, \$4.2 million for the Sounder locomotive engine overhaul project and \$1 million to complete the NEPA environmental phase for the Federal Way Transit Extension.

\$400,000 energy efficiency grant

Sound Transit received a \$400,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce that will be used for energy efficiency projects at the Federal Way, Auburn and Kent transit centers including replacing existing incandescent, fluorescent and high-intensity-discharge lighting fixtures with energy-efficient light-emitting diode fixtures. The grant also allows the agency to upgrade heating, cooling and plumbing systems at Union Station. These improvements will save the Agency an estimated \$80,000 a year in energy and operational costs.



Train testing on D to M Street

Sounder Lakewood Extension

Major construction activities on the D Street to M Street Track and Signal project concluded in early September. Vehicle and signal, communication and safety systems testing have been initiated; upon completion of testing, revenue service from to/from Lakewood and South Tacoma will begin. The start of revenue service is currently planned for October 8, 2012; to mark the start of service, Sound Transit is hosting community celebrations on Saturday, October 6, 2012 with free Sounder train rides for the public and activities at the Lakewood, South Tacoma and Tacoma Dome stations.

Sustainability report

Sound Transit released our 2011 annual Sustainability Progress Report in September highlighting achievement of gold level recognition in the APTA Sustainability Commitment and completion of 71 percent of our 2011 sustainability targets including reduced energy use at Union Station. The agency continued its efforts to consume less water reduce solid waste generation and minimize to the extent possible and practical, air emissions. The agency is on track to complete all of its 2011 sustainability and its 2012 targets in 2012.

Pareto award

Sound Transit was awarded the Pareto Award of Excellence in Public Procurement from the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, becoming only the eighth public agency in the nation to receive the honor. The award recognizes Sound Transit for distinguished best practices in procurement: leadership, strategic planning, customer service, process management, technology, and performance improvement.



***SOUND*TRANSIT**